

Special Fishing Regulations

Sport fishing is permitted on all waters of the Refuge during the open season, except for those specifically posted as “closed to all entry”. Sport fishing will be conducted in accordance with all applicable state regulations and subject to the following special conditions.

The sport fishing season extends from March 1 through October 31, except for the Noxubee River and the borrow pits along Highway 25, which are open year-round. No commercial fishing activities are allowed on refuge lands.

Limb lines, snag lines, and hand grappling are prohibited in Ross Branch, Bluff Lake and Loakfoma Lake.

Pole and set hooks when used in rivers, creeks, and other water bodies must be tagged with name and address and removed when not in use.

When trot lining, lines must have floats and cotton string attached to each end with owner’s name and address on both of them; one line is allowed per person with no more than two lines allowed per boat; and lines must be tended every 24 hours and removed when not in use.

When jug fishing, jugs must have name and address attached to each jug and must be tended every 24 hours.

Fishing tournaments are prohibited on all refuge waters.

Bow fishing is allowed on the Refuge with no special use permit required during daylight use hours. Bow fishermen must, however, be issued a special use permit by the refuge to bow fish at night. Contact the refuge office for this permit.

Cleaning of fish is prohibited within the refuge’s picnic, boat ramp, parking lots, and other public use areas.

Please keep the Refuge clean. No littering.

Hunts	Dates
<i>Youth</i>	
Squirrel	Oct 6 - 12
Deer	Nov 9 - 12
Turkey	Mar 8 - 14
<i>Small Game</i>	
Squirrel	Oct 13 - Feb 28 (dogs Dec. 1 - 24 & Jan 2 - Feb 28)
Rabbit	Oct 13 - Feb 28 (dogs allowed beginning Jan 2)
Quail	Nov 22 - Mar 2 (dogs allowed)
Woodcock	State Seasons
Raccoon & Opossum	Oct 1 - Feb 28 (dogs required at night)
<i>Deer</i>	
Archery	Oct 1 - Nov 16
Gun	Nov 17 - 30 and Dec 26 - Jan 1
Primitive Weapon	Nov 5 - 16 (antlerless only and Dec 1 - 14 (either sex)
Waterfowl	Draw hunt only (Wednesday and Saturday mornings of State Season)
Turkey	Mar 15 - May 1
Fishing	Lakes opened Mar 1 - Oct 31

Signs Protect Visitors and Resources



This sign delineates the refuge boundary. Entry is permitted only for authorized uses (hunting, fishing, sightseeing, etc.) in accordance with refuge regulations.



This area is closed to **all** entry. No hunting, fishing or sightseeing is permitted. No roads or trails are open to the public (See map.)



This area is closed to all entry due to proximity of eagle nest. No hunting, fishing or sightseeing is permitted.



This area is closed to **all** hunting. Firearms and archery equipment are strictly prohibited. (See map.)



GTR’s #1, 2 and #4 have been designated as Steel Shot Zones to protect waterfowl feeding in these areas. All small game hunters using shotguns in these zones may use and possess **only** approved non-toxic shot shells. (See map.)

Sam D. Hamilton Noxubee National Wildlife Refuge

